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Security Council

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Agenda items 36 and 160

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

The situation in the Middle East

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Letter dated 30 December 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am writing to draw your attention to the latest act of Palestinian terrorism directed against the citizens of Israel.

At approximately 7.30 p.m. (local time) this past Friday evening, 27 December, two terrorists disguised in Israeli army uniforms and armed with M-16 rifles infiltrated the community of Otniel and opened fire on a religious seminary building located there. At the time, students were gathered in the ground-floor dining hall for the festive and holy Sabbath meal. The two terrorists indiscriminately sprayed the building with gunfire; one managed to enter the kitchen where four defenceless students were preparing a meal. All four were shot and killed at close range. Another 10 Israelis, including six soldiers who responded to the attack, were wounded. The terrorist organization Palestine Islamic Jihad (PIJ) claimed responsibility for the attack.

In a statement issued from the group's headquarters in Damascus, PIJ secretary-general Ramadan Shallah, who is granted safe harbour and operates freely from the Syrian capital, claimed that the Otniel attack was carried out in retaliation for the death of Hamza Abu-Rub, the leader of Islamic Jihad in the West Bank city of Qabatiyah and one of the most senior operatives in the area. Abu-Rub, who was killed after he attacked with a machine gun and grenades the Israeli soldiers who tried to arrest him, was responsible for scores of terrorist attacks against Israeli civilians, including the bombing at Kibbutz Shaked on 5 November 2001, which wounded three Israelis, the suicide attack at Umm el-Fahm on 18 September 2002, which killed two Israelis (an incident referred to in my letter dated 19 September 2002 (A/57/419-S/2002/1049)), as well as scores of indiscriminate shooting attacks and ambushes of Israeli civilian vehicles.

03-20015 (E) 020103

Israel calls upon the Palestinian leadership to cease, once and for all, not only its financial and logistical support for terrorists, but also the moral support that stems from official glorification of their acts. The perception of terrorists as heroes of the Palestinian people is one that has been systematically nurtured in the Palestinian educational system, in the official Palestinian media and in the speeches and statements of Palestinian officials, and has prevented the Palestinian leadership from mounting a concerted campaign against them.

Israel further calls upon the Palestinian leadership to take immediate steps to fulfil its obligations to end violence, terrorism and incitement and to bring terrorist perpetrators to justice in accordance with international law, international humanitarian law and Security Council resolutions. Until the Palestinian leadership is prepared to renounce its strategy of supporting and celebrating acts of terror, Israel will be compelled to take the necessary defensive measures. Terrorist attacks of the kind perpetrated in Otniel will only serve to obstruct the path to peace and reconciliation in the region.

I submit the present letter in follow-up to numerous letters detailing the campaign of Palestinian terrorism that began in September 2000.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 36 and 160, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yehuda **Lancry**
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/57/698–S/2002/1442

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General Assembly
Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 54
Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 31 December 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 26 December 2002, addressed to you by Reşat Çağlar, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex would be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 54, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ümit **Pamir**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

03-20055 (E) 030103

Annex to the letter dated 31 December 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

With reference to the several statements made by the representatives of the Greek Cypriot Administration during the meetings of the various Committees of the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, I wish herein to set the record straight.

Year after year we have witnessed Greek Cypriot officials appear before United Nations bodies to repeat their well-known baseless allegations against Turkey and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, ignoring the fact that the very title they carry in doing so is a usurped one secured only by violence in December 1963.

None of the resolutions to which references are made in the above-mentioned statements describes the legitimate and justified Turkish intervention of 1974, undertaken in accordance with the Treaty of Guarantee of 1960, as "aggression" or "invasion", or the subsequent presence of Turkish troops in the island as "occupation". Such distortions are purely a Greek Cypriot invention aimed at blurring the issue and confusing the innocent with the guilty. On this point I would only like to recall the dramatic statement made by Archbishop Makarios, the Greek Cypriot leader at the time, before the Security Council on 19 July 1974, in which he openly accused Greece, not Turkey, of invading and occupying Cyprus. His remarks, which came only four days after the Greek coup of 15 July 1974, are well recorded in the annals of the United Nations and hardly require further elaboration.

What had been going on in Cyprus before the coup, however, is just as, if not more, significant. The years from 1963 to 1974 were a period in which the Greek Cypriots, aided and abetted by Greece, practised ethnic cleansing, terrorism and tyranny against the Turkish Cypriots, all in the name of Enosis. The atrocities committed by the Greek Cypriots during that period drew comments from the international news media, such as *The Washington Post*, which reported in its issue of 17 February 1964 that "Greek Cypriot fanatics appear bent on a policy of genocide"; from prominent statesmen like George Ball, the United States Under-Secretary of State at the time, who wrote in his memoirs *The Past Has Another Pattern*, that "Makarios's central interest was to block off Turkish intervention so that he and his Greek Cypriots could go on happily massacring Turkish Cypriots" (p. 64); and from the United Nations Secretary-General himself, who reported to the Security Council on 10 September 1964 that the Turkish Cypriots had been put under "veritable siege" (see S/5950 and Corr.1). The attempt by Greek Cypriot officials to brush aside this 11-year-long ordeal of the Turkish Cypriots is, to say the least, outrageous. It shows their total insincerity and refusal to show any sign of remorse or an attitude conducive to reconciliation.

It is this background of violence, for which the Greek Cypriots themselves are solely responsible, that has divided Cyprus; segregated the two peoples of the island from each other by pushing the Turkish Cypriots into scattered enclaves encompassing a mere 3 per cent of the island's territory for 11 years; and finally led to the present division. Those with such a record cannot possibly profess a departure from the passions of the past and expect to be taken at their word, particularly at a time when their entire strategy seems to be aimed at creating a Greek-dominated

Cyprus. Bi-zonality, sovereign equality and the continuation of the 1960 Treaty of Guarantee are indispensable safeguards against such an eventuality, and are prerequisites for a new partnership. The degree of unity and integration will depend on the ability of particularly the Greek Cypriot partner to come to terms with the past and the present realities, and its willingness to respect the equal rights and status of the Turkish Cypriot partner in a future settlement. Judging by the present behaviour and activities of the Greek Cypriot leadership, however, such as its continuing embargoes on the Turkish Cypriot people, and its massive rearmament campaign coupled with its provocative rhetoric, the Greek Cypriot side is far from being in a conciliatory mood.

Greek Cypriot leaders would serve their interests, and those of others well, if they would bring themselves to acknowledge the fact that most of the ills that have befallen the island have been a direct result of their irredentist mentality.

I should be grateful if the present letter would be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 54, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Reşat **Çağlar**
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

United Nations A/57/699–S/2002/1441

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Security Council

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Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 30 December 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my letter dated 27 August 2002 (A/56/1030-S/2002/967), I have the honour to draw your attention to new massive violations of the flight information region (FIR) of Nicosia and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by military aircraft of the Turkish air force, recorded on 21, 22, 28 and 29 August, 2, 4, 12, 18, 19, 20, 22 and 24 September, 7, 11, 14, 18, 21 and 31 October, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 18, 21 and 26 November and 3, 4, 11, and 16 December 2002.

On 21 August, twenty-four F-16 and four F-4, flying in seven formations, two CN-235 and three KC-135 Turkish military aircraft, coming from the FIR of Ankara, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus as follows:

(a) The twenty F-16 and four F-4 aircraft in seven formations entered the Nicosia FIR, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting in a south-easterly direction, from where they returned later on the same day;

(b) One formation of F-16 and the formation of F-4 aircraft violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas);

(c) The two CN-235 aircraft, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) in a search and rescue mission, violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara;

(d) The three KC-135 aircraft in a refuelling mission in the air, followed the same route with the military aircraft and returned on the same day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 22 August, twenty-eight F-16, two RF-4 and four F-4 aircraft in seven formations, two CN-235 and three KC-135 Turkish military aircraft, coming from the FIR of Ankara, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus as follows:

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(a) Twenty-two F-16, two RF-4 and four F-4 aircraft in seven formations entered the Nicosia FIR, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting in a south-westerly direction. The aircraft returned to the FIR of Ankara on the same day;

(b) One formation of two F-16 and two RF-4 and one formation of four F-16 (on their return) aircraft violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas);

(c) Two CN-235 flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) in a search and rescue mission violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara;

(d) The three KC-135, in a refuelling mission in the air, followed the same route with the military aircraft, exiting in a south-easterly direction and returned on the same day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 28 August, two F-16 aircraft in one formation and one C-160 Turkish military aircraft coming from the FIR of Ankara entered the Nicosia FIR as follows:

(a) The two F-16 aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations, before exiting in a westerly direction;

(b) The C-160 entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas), violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus before exiting in a south-easterly direction. The aircraft returned in the afternoon of the same day.

On 29 August, two F-16 Turkish military aircraft, in one formation, coming from the FIR of Ankara, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations before exiting in a westerly direction.

On 2 September, one CN-235 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned on the same day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 4 September, four F-4 Turkish military aircraft in one formation, coming from the FIR of Ankara, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations before exiting in a westerly direction.

On 12 September, one B-200 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned on the same day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 18 September, sixteen Turkish military aircraft in four formations, coming from a westerly direction and from the FIR of Ankara, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus before exiting in the same two directions from which they had come.

On 18 September, one C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the

Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting in a south-easterly direction. The aircraft returned on the same day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 19 September, one CN-235 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned on the same day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 20 September, one CN-235 Turkish military aircraft, coming from the FIR of Ankara, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic.

On 22 September, one KC-135 aircraft, coming from a westerly direction, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations, before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 24 September, eight F-16 Turkish military aircraft in two formations, coming from the FIR of Ankara and from a westerly direction, violated international air traffic regulations before exiting in the same two directions from which they had come.

On 7 October, two F-4 Turkish military aircraft in one formation, coming from the FIR of Ankara, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations before exiting in the same direction from which they had come.

On 11 October, three RF-4 Turkish military aircraft, coming from a westerly direction in one formation, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations, before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 14 October, four Turkish military aircraft in one formation, coming from the FIR of Ankara, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations, before exiting in a westerly direction.

On 14 October, two F-4 Turkish military aircraft in one formation, coming from the FIR of Ankara, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations, before exiting in a westerly direction.

On 18 October, four F-4 Turkish military aircraft in one formation, coming from the FIR of Ankara, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations, before exiting in a westerly direction.

On 21 October, one CN-235 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned to the FIR of Ankara on 24 October, following the same route.

On 31 October, sixteen F-16 Turkish military aircraft in four formations, coming from a westerly direction, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations, before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 9 November, one CN-235 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned on the same day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 11 November, one Turkish military aircraft, after taking off from the airport of Krini in the occupied area of the Republic, violated international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 12 November, one Turkish military aircraft, after taking off from the airport of Konya, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the Mesaoria area before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic.

On 14 November, one C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting in a south-easterly direction, from where it returned later on the same day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 14 November, one C-160 Turkish military aircraft, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned on the same day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 15 November, seven F-5 Turkish military aircraft, coming from the FIR of Ankara, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before returning to the FIR of Ankara in the same direction from which they had come.

On 16 November, one Gulf Steam Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned on the same day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 18 November, one B-200 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned on the same day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 21 November, one C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned on the same day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 26 November, fourteen Turkish military aircraft of unknown type in six formations, coming from the FIR of Ankara, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating

international air traffic regulations, before returning to the FIR of Ankara in the same direction from which they had come.

On 3 December, one C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned on the same day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 4 December, one CN-235 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria before landing at the illegal airport of Lefkoniko in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned to the FIR of Ankara the next day.

On 11 December, one Turkish military aircraft of unknown type, coming from the FIR of Ankara, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations, before returning to the FIR of Ankara in the same direction from which it had come.

On 16 December, two formations, each consisting of two Turkish military aircraft of unknown type, entered the Nicosia FIR, coming from the FIR of Ankara, violating international air traffic regulations, before exiting in a westerly direction.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I strongly protest all the above-mentioned violations of the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, which violate international law as well as Security Council resolutions on Cyprus, and call for their immediate cessation. I would like to note that these violations are not conducive to the maintenance of the required positive climate, especially during the present important phase in the exercise of your mission of good offices, which enjoys the full support of the Security Council. It is hoped that the Government of Turkey will show restraint, cease the violation of the airspace of Cyprus and, heeding the call by the Security Council, assume its responsibilities towards the Turkish Cypriot leaders so that they will contribute to the efforts to find a just and viable solution to the Cyprus problem on the basis of United Nations resolutions.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 54, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sotos **Zackheos**
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/57/700

General Assembly

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Fifty-seventh session
Agenda items 19 and 39

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

Letter dated 19 December 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I wish to refer to the letter dated 8 October 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations to you, which was circulated as General Assembly document A/57/461, in which the Government of the Argentine Republic reiterated its rejection of the "White Paper on Partnership for Peace and Prosperity: Britain and the Overseas Territories".

The Government of the United Kingdom rejects the above-mentioned letter. The United Kingdom has no doubt about its sovereignty over the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas. The nomenclature applied to Overseas Territories, which was confirmed with Parliamentary enactment of the British Overseas Territories Act, 2002 does not alter the status of those territories.

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this note to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 19 and 39.

(*Signed*) Jeremy **Greenstock**

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United Nations A/57/701

General Assembly

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Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 22
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations

Letter dated 28 December 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as representative of the coordinating country for the participating States of the GUUAM Group (Georgia, Ukraine, the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Moldova), it is my honour to transmit to you the following documents adopted by GUUAM: (a) Final communiqué of the GUUAM Summit (see annex I); (b) Declaration on common efforts to ensure stability and security in the region (9-20 July 2002, Yalta) (see annex II); (c) Communiqué of the first meeting of the Council of Foreign Affairs Ministers of the States members of GUUAM (18 September 2002, New York) (see annex III); and (d) Protocol of the second session of the GUUAM Working Group on Fighting Terrorism, Organized Crime and the Spread of Narcotics (29-30 October 2002, Baku) (see annex IV).

I should be most grateful if you would have the present letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 22, Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations.

(*Signed*) Revaz **Adamia**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

03-20330 (E) 140103 150103

Annex I to the letter dated 28 December 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and Russian]

Final communiqué of the GUUAM Summit

On 19 and 20 July 2002, in Yalta, Ukraine, the regular meeting of the Presidents of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine was held, in the course of which the issues of strengthening the organizational and legal basis of the GUUAM Group and the further development of cooperation within the framework of the Group were discussed.

The Presidents confirmed the firmness of their positions on the issues of combating terrorism and organized crime, and stressed the need for the prevention of any actions aimed at support of separatist and extremist forces and at undermining the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the GUUAM participating States. They stressed the urgent need for early settlement of the continuing conflicts on the basis of norms and principles of international law.

The Heads of State signed the Declaration on common efforts to ensure stability and security in the region (see annex II), in which they stated the determination of their countries to provide political, legal and organizational bases for overcoming the challenges of international terrorism, separatism, intolerance and extremism.

Today's signing of the Agreement on Cooperation among the Governments of the GUUAM participating States in the Combat against Terrorism, Organized Crime and Other Dangerous Types of Crime is an important step in this direction.

Attaching special meaning to the issue of combating the laundering of proceeds from crime, and also to the danger of the use of such resources for financing terrorist activities, the Presidents tasked the Governments to thoroughly examine the issue of establishing close interaction between the GUUAM Group and the Financial Action Task Force on Money-Laundering.

The Heads of State discussed the implementation of decisions of the previous GUUAM Summit. All sides stressed the priority character of developing overall cooperation within the GUUAM framework, aimed at broadening commercial and economic links and further developing and providing secure and efficient functioning of the GUUAM transport corridors, with primary consideration being given to the Europe-Caucasus-Asia corridor.

The Heads of State took note of the prospects of realizing the Euro-Asian oil transportation corridor project within the concept of providing multiple routes for the transportation of Caspian energy resources to world markets.

Increased strengthening of the institutions of the Group, the creation of favourable conditions for sectoral interaction and the attraction of other countries and organizations to various aspects of GUUAM cooperation were determined as basic tasks of cooperation within the GUUAM framework at this stage.

The Agreement on the Establishment of a Free-Trade Area, signed at the Summit, is expected to play a special role in improving the economic conditions and the more efficient use of the commercial potential of the GUUAM participating States. The Presidents agreed to make their best efforts to achieve early implementation of the necessary domestic procedures for the entry of this Agreement into force. The conclusion of additional treaties on cooperation in separate sectors among the participating States will promote the same purpose.

While discussing ways of broadening cooperation in concrete spheres, the Presidents paid special attention to the issue of the establishment and the activities of GUUAM sectoral working groups in the fields of: transport; energy; economy and commerce; communication and information technologies; culture; tourism; science and education; combating terrorism; and organized crime and drug proliferation. The Heads of State took note of the adoption of the GUUAM programme of work for 2002-2003 as a basis for providing the systematic and consistent development of interaction in these fields.

In this connection, the President tasked the Governments to intensify the development of joint projects and programmes of sectoral cooperation in the framework of relevant working groups, which are supposed to bring the interaction between the GUUAM participating States to a qualitatively new level of practice.

The Heads of State stressed the importance of actively engaging private companies and entrepreneurs in their countries in the realization of joint projects and programmes. The Presidents welcomed the signing of the agreement on the establishment of the Business Council of GUUAM participating States by the Heads of the Chambers of Trade and Commerce.

Taking into consideration the vast cultural heritage of the GUUAM countries, their input into the world civilization and the wide prospects of the GUUAM initiative for the creation of the Europe-Caucasus-Asia cultural corridor, the Presidents took note with satisfaction of the signing of the Protocol on Cooperation in the Field of Culture within the framework of GUUAM for 2002-2005.

Progress was achieved as a result of the work of the Summit in the field of institutionalization of the Group. The Statute of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of GUUAM and the provisional Statute of the GUUAM Information Office were signed.

The Presidents took note with satisfaction of the positive interaction of the GUUAM countries within the framework of the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe and other international organizations, and stressed the purposefulness of the development of agreed positions on foreign policy initiatives of the GUUAM Group and interaction on the issues of GUUAM cooperation with other States, international organizations and institutions.

The Presidents took note of the increasing interest of the international community in the activities of the GUUAM Group, which was confirmed by the participation of representatives of foreign States and international organizations in the work of the Summit. In this connection, the Presidents emphasized the importance of the decision on the status of observers of GUUAM activities adopted by the Heads of the GUUAM participating States.

Noting the importance of establishment and strengthening of close contacts between the legislative bodies of the member States of the Group, the Presidents agreed to present the initiative of establishing a GUUAM Parliamentary Assembly for the consideration of their national Parliaments.

The Heads of State welcomed the establishment of the GUUAM information office in Kyiv, noted the key importance of this office in the promotion of cooperation within the GUUAM framework, and also the interaction of the Group with other States, international organizations and institutions.

The Presidents commissioned an annual report on GUUAM activities during 2002-2003 to be presented for the consideration of the Heads of participating States at the next summit.

It was agreed to hold the next GUUAM summit in Yalta, Ukraine, in 2003.

Done at Yalta on 20 July 2002 in four copies in the English and Russian languages.

For the Republic of Azerbaijan
(*Signed*) Heydar **Aliyev**

For Georgia
(*Signed*) Eduard **Schevardnadze**

For the Republic of Moldova
(*Signed*) Vladimir **Voronin**

For Ukraine
(*Signed*) Leonid **Kuchma**

Annex II to the letter dated 28 December 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and Russian]

Declaration on common efforts to ensure stability and security in the region

We, the Heads of State of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine,

Taking into account the

Ongoing transformation of the system of international and regional security,

Strengthening of threats to national and international security such as international terrorism, extremism and aggressive separatism,

Concentration of these threats and, related to them, such negative phenomena as organized crime, trafficking in human beings, distribution of narcotics, illicit trafficking in weapons and money-laundering in the zones of unsettled conflicts within the territories of certain States,

Statement of the United Nations Security Council that acts of international terrorism constitute one of the most serious threats to international peace and security in the twenty-first century, as well as a challenge to all States and all of humanity,

Importance of further improvement and strengthening of the system of international and regional stability and security and the creation of perquisites within the system of international relations for exclusion of recurrence of tragedies similar to the terrorist acts of 11 September 2001,

Need to combat terrorism at the global level,

Need for stable and secure development of our countries and the region as a whole,

Following the provisions of Yalta Charter of GUUAM, which envisage that strengthening regional security in all spheres of activity and combating terrorism and organized crime represent one of the main goals of the Group,

In order to ensure consistent fulfilment of our obligations arising from United Nations Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1377 (2001) and the norms of international conventions and treaties in the combat against terrorism,

Reaffirming our commitment to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Helsinki Final Act of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,

In the name of regional security, peace, stability and prosperity,

DECLARE

The resolution of our States to provide political, legal and organizational bases for overcoming the threats of terrorism, separatism, intolerance and extremism and related illegal actions;

The readiness to counteract those threats by consolidating the efforts of participating States, inter alia, through:

- Creating relevant conditions within the Group to coordinate actions in this field;
- Aligning national legislations;
- Establishing and developing a permanent system of information and experience exchange to counteract those threats and risks;
- Implementing joint programmes to improve mechanisms to prevent terrorist activities and organized crime;
- Joint operative actions in relevant spheres;
- Developing national systems to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorist activities;
- Improving the system of ensuring security of State borders and the effective functioning of border controls;
- Implementing measures to ensure the security of transport corridors;

The need for the earliest settlement of ongoing conflicts on the basis of norms and principles of international law;

The desire to develop fruitful cooperation in ensuring security with interested countries and organizations.

For the Republic of Azerbaijan
(*Signed*) Heydar **Aliyev**

For Georgia
(*Signed*) Eduard **Schevardnadze**

For the Republic of Moldova
(*Signed*) Vladimir **Voronin**

For Ukraine
(*Signed*) Leonid **Kuchma**

Yalta, 20 July 2002

Annex III to the letter dated 28 December 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Communiqué of the first meeting of the Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the GUUAM member States

New York, 18 September 2002

The first meeting of the Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the GUUAM member States was held on 18 September 2002 in New York (United States of America).

In the course of the meeting, the questions of cooperation and the development of GUUAM were discussed. The Council discussed the state of implementation of the agreements reached during the Second Summit of the Heads of State of GUUAM, held on 19 and 20 July 2002 in Yalta (Ukraine). The Ministers noted the need to speed up the process of ratifying the documents signed and recommended stepping up efforts to implement them. The Council noted the priority task of implementing the Agreement on the Establishment of the GUUAM Free-Trade Area and, in this connection, highly assessed the initiative of holding in Kyiv in November 2002 a meeting of the Preparatory Committee on the OSCE-GUUAM project.

The Ministers considered the questions relating to the implementation of the GUUAM Programme of Activities for 2002-2003, adopted on 2 July 2002 in Baku, and entrusted the Committee of National Coordinators (CNC) with the task of completing the selection of the members of the branch working groups and also distributing the chairmanships of these groups.

The Council underscored the importance of speedily beginning the practical activities of the branch working groups aimed at drawing up multilateral cooperation projects, and called upon the coordinator countries to carry out the work of organizing their meetings by the end of this year with the goal of approving the programmes of activities.

The Council considered questions concerning the activities of the GUUAM Information Office in Kyiv. The Ministers entrusted the Committee of National Coordinators with the task of reaching final agreement on the Office's budget with account taken of the project drawn up at the meeting of the representatives of the GUUAM member countries in Kyiv and to begin the drafting of the Charter, which will clearly define its functions and tasks. In order to augment the Office's activities, a recommendation was made to consider the question of setting up an Office information portal.

The Ministers emphasized the importance of cooperation among the GUUAM States in combating terrorism and organized crime, strengthening border control, halting the spread of weapons of mass destruction, and guaranteeing security and the effective functioning of transport corridors, and noted that, during the planned meeting of experts of member States in October 2003 in Baku, specific projects within the framework of this cooperation will be considered. In this connection, the

Ministers underscored in particular the importance of cooperation with the United States of America in drawing up and carrying out such projects.

The Council underscored the need for interaction among the GUUAM States within the framework of international organizations and entrusted their States' missions to the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and other international organizations with the task of making joint efforts to bring about a strong condemnation of any actions that undermine the sovereignty and territorial integrity of their States, including aggression and other forms of the illegal use of force, as well as outside support from separatist and extremist forces acting illegally in the territory of some GUUAM member States. The GUUAM States will also cooperate in order to step up the activities of international organizations aimed at speedily resolving ongoing conflicts on the basis of the norms and principles of international law.

The Ministers agreed to hold the second meeting of the Council in the city of Porto (Portugal) in December 2002, during the meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the OSCE member countries.

For the Republic of Azerbaijan
(*Signed*) (*Illegible*)

For Georgia
(*Signed*) (*Illegible*)

For the Republic of Moldova
(*Signed*) (*Illegible*)

For Ukraine
(*Signed*) (*Illegible*)

Annex IV to the letter dated 28 December 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Minutes of the second meeting of the GUUAM Working Group on Combating Terrorism, Organized Crime and the Spread of Narcotic Drugs

Baku, 29-30 October 2002

The second meeting of the GUUAM Working Group on Combating Terrorism, Organized Crime and the Spread of Narcotic Drugs took place on 29 and 30 October 2002 in Baku. Representatives of the corresponding ministries and departments of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia and Ukraine and of the Embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in Baku participated in the meeting. A delegation from the United States of America and representatives of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI) Centre were also present at the meeting.

The GUUAM heads of State defined as priority goals cooperation within the GUUAM framework in combating terrorism, organized crime and the spread of narcotic drugs. Cooperation by the GUUAM member States in these fields was laid down in the Yalta Charter of GUUAM and the Declaration of the Heads of State on common efforts to ensure security and stability in the region, and the Agreement on Cooperation among the Governments of the GUUAM Member States in Combating Terrorism, Organized Crime and Other Dangerous Types of Crime.

The objective of the meeting of the GUUAM Working Group in Baku was to discuss ways of implementing the Declaration of the Heads of State on common efforts to ensure security and stability in the region, and the Agreement on Cooperation among the Governments of the GUUAM Member States in Combating Terrorism, Organized Crime and Other Dangerous Types of Crime.

The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. A. Azimov, opened the meeting.

The Deputy Minister of National Security of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. F. Iskenderov, spoke about questions relating to combating terrorism in Azerbaijan and strengthening cooperation in this field within the GUUAM framework.

The representatives of the delegations of Georgia, Ukraine, the Republic of Uzbekistan and the United States of America and also the representative of the SECI Centre made introductory statements on the questions under discussion.

The representative of the United States made a statement setting forth in detail the proposal of the United States State Department on "the programme for promoting trade and transport". The participants in the meeting discussed in detail this programme and took a decision to draw up a single framework document based on it, which should include joint projects in the following basic areas of cooperation: information exchange, improving the security of transport corridors,

strengthening the control and passage points on the borders of GUUAM countries, training and preparation of personnel for border and customs services, the establishment of a normative legal basis for cooperation, and operational coordination on the part of law enforcement agencies. Discussion of joint cooperation projects was continued within the framework of three working groups set up in the following fields:

1. Cooperation in the field of customs and border control;
2. Establishment of an information exchange system;
3. Cooperation by law enforcement agencies in combating terrorism, organized crime, the spread of narcotic drugs and other dangerous types of crime.

Within the working groups, the participants in the meeting reached agreement on the following projects for inclusion in the framework programme:

1. Establishment of a GUUAM virtual centre for combating terrorism, organized crime, the spread of narcotic drugs and other dangerous types of crime;
2. Establishment of a single information area for exchanging data on counter-terrorism;
3. Proposals on implementing projects to strengthen cooperation and coordination of GUUAM countries in the border and customs fields.

The participants in the meeting agreed that it was expedient to continue to draw up and implement the projects set forth in the draft framework programme through intersectoral working groups in accordance with the following scheme:

Point I — A working group on combating terrorism, organized crime and the spread of narcotic drugs;

Point II — A working group on combating terrorism, organized crime, the spread of narcotic drugs and a working group on informatics and telecommunications;

Point III — A meeting of the heads of border and customs departments.

The participants in the meeting took a decision to transmit the draft framework programme for consideration by national departments on an accelerated basis in order to submit it for consideration and approval at a meeting of the GUUAM States and the United States of America, which is to be held in Porto in the framework of the Conference of OSCE Ministers for Foreign Affairs on 6 and 7 December 2002.

The group took a decision to propose that the GUUAM Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs should consider the candidature of the Republic of Azerbaijan for the chairmanship of the GUUAM working group on combating terrorism, organized crime and the spread of narcotic drugs.

The delegates agreed on the need to step up completion of the procedures within States for ratifying the Agreement on the Establishment of the GUUAM Free Trade Area and the Agreement on Cooperation among the Governments of the GUUAM Member States in Combating Terrorism, Organized Crime and Other Dangerous Types of Crime.

The delegations recommended speeding up the process of considering the agreement on mutual cooperation in customs matters between the Governments of GUUAM member States by the corresponding national departments of GUUAM States.

The delegations agreed that the dates and venue for holding the next meeting of the Working Group would be determined through diplomatic channels.

The delegations of the GUUAM States expressed appreciation to the delegation of the United States of America and the representatives of the Southeast European Cooperative Initiative Centre and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The participants in the meeting took note of the proposal to organize a visit of GUUAM experts to the SECI headquarters in Bucharest in order to exchange experience.

Attachment: the draft GUUAM-USA framework programme to promote trade and transport, ensure border and customs control and combat terrorism, organized crime and the spread of narcotic drugs.

For the delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan
(*Signed*) (*Illegible*)

For the delegation of Georgia
(*Signed*) (*Illegible*)

For the delegation of Ukraine
(*Signed*) (*Illegible*)

United Nations A/57/702

General Assembly

Distr.: General
6 January 2003

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 73
Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

Letter dated 6 December 1002 from the Permanent Representative of Cambodia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that H.E. Mr. Hor Namhong, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, wishes to associate himself with the Joint Ministerial Statement on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (see A/57/586, annex), and would be grateful if you could include his name in the list of issuing ministers.

(*Signed*) Ouch **Borith**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

03-20235 (E) 070103

United Nations A/57/703–S/2003/9

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
6 January 2003

Original: English

General Assembly
Fifty-seventh session
Agenda items 36 and 160

Security Council
Fifty-eighth year

The situation in the Middle East

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Letter dated 6 January 2003 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am writing to draw your attention to the latest horrific act of Palestinian terrorism directed against the citizens of Israel.

Yesterday evening at approximately 6.30 p.m. (local time), in a coordinated attack, two Palestinian suicide bombers blew themselves up in a bustling downtown area of Tel Aviv, in one of the bloodiest terrorist attacks carried out since the onset of the Palestinian campaign of terrorism in September 2000. Just a few metres and a few seconds apart, the two large explosions ripped through a crowded bus stop and a pedestrian mall, turning an ordinary urban scene into a nightmare of chaos and carnage. Packed with nails, bolts and ball bearings to maximize the pain and suffering of the victims, the powerful explosives destroyed the facade of a building, shattered walls and windows of the many shops and residences in the vicinity, and sent glass, shrapnel and even whole bodies flying through the air. To date, 23 civilians are known to have died and more than 100 others were injured. Among those killed were nationals of a number of countries besides Israel, including Ghana, Romania and Bulgaria. Several bodies remain unidentified.

The Tel Aviv bombings come two days after Israeli soldiers discovered the burnt body of 73-year-old Massoud Alon, just a few hours after his family reported him missing. The discovery of Alon's body, which was apparently beaten before it was burned, came after an announcement by the Al Aqsa Brigades, the terrorist wing of Chairman Arafat's own Fatah movement, declaring that it had killed an Israeli civilian.

Following the Tel Aviv attack, several Palestinian terrorist groups rushed to issue competing claims of responsibility — including Islamic Jihad, Hamas and the Al Aqsa Brigades. The Al Aqsa Brigades announcement, published on the group's Internet web site, identified the two suicide terrorists, praised the ongoing "holy Jihad" and promised that "additional suicide operations will occur". The statement

03-20241 (E) 070103

included the following description of the attack: "The first suicide attacker blew his pure body up in the street full of people and immediately following the second suicide attacker blew himself up on an adjacent road. These suicide attacks cause a large number of fatalities and casualties in the center of the Zionist occupation of our land." A reporter for the satellite television station *Al-Jazeera* who forwarded the Al Aqsa Brigades' claim of responsibility to his station was arrested by Palestinian police and charged with acting against the interests of the Palestinian people.

Israel holds the Palestinian Authority fully responsible for these atrocities carried out by forces loyal to its Chairman, Yasser Arafat. Not only has the Palestinian leadership utterly failed to live up to its responsibilities under international law and Security Council resolutions to fight terrorism, arrest known terrorists, and cease all violence, terrorism and incitement, but it has actively supported and encouraged such attacks through its official media and educational institutions and through the financial and logistical support it has provided to known terrorists.

As if to confirm the abject refusal of the Palestinian leadership to take any steps whatsoever in fulfilment of its obligations to fight terrorism, Farouk Kaddoumi, the head of the political department of the Palestine Liberation Organization, in an interview with the Nazareth-based weekly *Kul al-Arab*, stated that the Palestinian leadership would not act to bring an end to terrorist attacks. "Palestinian resistance is a legitimate project and as long as there is an occupation the fight will continue", said Kaddoumi. With respect to terrorist groups like Hamas, Kaddoumi stated: "We were never different from Hamas. Hamas is a national movement. Strategically, there is no difference between us."

The terrorist legacy of the Palestinian leadership is resurrected in full if it views itself as indistinguishable from terrorist groups like Hamas that are committed to the destruction of the State of Israel. While the Palestinian leadership continues its attempts to manipulate international public opinion by condemning the same attacks for which its own forces are responsible, its lengthy history of airplane hijackings, hostage taking and other contemptible acts of terrorism leave no room for doubt as to the Palestinian leadership's true feelings regarding the legality and morality of targeting innocent civilians. A leadership that inspires its people to commit acts of suicidal terrorism, and celebrates those who do so as "martyrs" rather than murderers, is a leadership that has fatally undermined its legitimacy.

In such an environment, Israel is left with no choice but to take the defensive measures necessary to protect its citizens from harm. The continuation of the Palestinian campaign of terrorism will only serve to prolong the agony of both peoples and make the path to peace and reconciliation that much more difficult to advance. Efforts by responsible members of the international community to bring the parties together are condemned to failure as long as the basic right to life of Israelis is so routinely and gruesomely violated. Granting concessions to a regime that supports and encourages such violations is the surest guarantee that violence and terrorism will continue. Only once such attacks are roundly rejected, both in word and deed, can we progress to negotiations, which are the only means to achieve a genuine and lasting peace between the Israeli and Palestinian peoples.

I submit the present letter in follow-up to numerous letters detailing the campaign of Palestinian terrorism that began in September 2000.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter circulated as a document of the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 36 and 160, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Arye **Mekel**

United Nations A/57/704

General Assembly

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8 January 2003
English
Original: Spanish

Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 39
Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

Letter dated 3 January 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a press release issued today by the Government of the Argentine Republic on the occasion of the latest anniversary of the illegal occupation of the Malvinas Islands by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would arrange for this note and its annex to be circulated as a General Assembly document under agenda item 39.

(*Signed*) Arnoldo M. **Listre**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

03-20351 (E) 090103 090103

Annex to the letter dated 3 January 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Press release

On 3 January 1833, British forces seized the Malvinas Islands, expelling their inhabitants and the Argentine authorities established there.

Today, on the 170th anniversary of that illegal occupation, the Argentine people and Government reaffirm the inalienable sovereignty rights of the Argentine Republic over the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas.

The Argentine Government recalls the steadfast and permanent objective of the Argentine people, enshrined in the National Constitution, to recover the full exercise of sovereignty over the above-mentioned territories and maritime areas through peaceful means for the settlement of disputes in accordance with international law, respecting the way of life and the interests of the inhabitants of the islands.

On this latest anniversary, the Argentine Government reaffirms its conviction that the resumption of negotiations on the sovereignty issue, in accordance with the multiple and constant appeals of the international community, will contribute to the establishment of a framework conducive to achieving a fair and lasting solution to the dispute. Argentina is acting in the belief that the numerous interim understandings reached with the United Kingdom under the formula of safeguarding sovereignty rights in relation to practical issues in the South Atlantic are also contributing to the search for a solution to the dispute.

At the same time, the Argentine Government will continue to make progress in the dialogue with the United Kingdom with a view to consolidating a relationship of mutual trust and broadening bilateral cooperation.

Buenos Aires, 3 January 2003

United Nations A/57/705

General Assembly

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14 January 2003

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Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 117
Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Letter dated 14 January 2003 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly

1. At present 27 Member States are in arrears under the terms of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations, which states as follows:

> "A Member of the United Nations which is in arrears in the payment of its financial contributions to the Organization shall have no vote in the General Assembly if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from it for the preceding two full years. The General Assembly may, nevertheless, permit such a Member to vote if it is satisfied that the failure to pay is due to conditions beyond the control of the Member."

2. The minimum payments necessary to reduce the amounts owed by those Member States on their contributions so that they remain below the gross amount assessed for the preceding two full years (2001 and 2002) are as follows:

Member State	*Minimum payment (United States dollars)*
Antigua and Barbuda	16 500.00
Belarus	2 403 777.00
Burundi	58 000.00[a]
Cape Verde	27 200.00
Central African Republic	308 800.00
Chad	11 800.00
Comoros	732 500.00[a]
Democratic Republic of the Congo	62 900.00
Djibouti	9 900.00
Dominica	8 900.00
Georgia	6 796 800.00[a]
Guinea-Bissau	447 700.00[a]

03-20928 (E) 140103

Member State	*Minimum payment (United States dollars)*
Haiti	23 900.00
Iraq	12 621 200.00
Kenya	9 100.00
Kyrgyzstan	93 192.72
Liberia	1 098 800.00
Mauritania	11 300.00
Niger	353 700.00
Republic of Moldova	2 576 366.00[a]
Sao Tome and Principe	551 100.00[a]
Solomon Islands	385.00
Somalia	979 400.00[a]
Tajikistan	1 719 989.00[a]
Uzbekistan	358 774.00
Vanuatu	9 800.00
Venezuela	739 600.00

[a] By its resolution 57/4 of 27 September 2002, the General Assembly decided that the Comoros, Georgia, Guinea-Bissau, the Republic of Moldova, Sao Tome and Principe, Somalia and Tajikistan would be permitted to vote in the Assembly until 30 June 2003 and that Burundi would be permitted to vote in the Assembly until the next substantive session of the Committee on Contributions, scheduled to be held from 2 June 2003.

(*Signed*) Kofi **Annan**
Secretary-General

United Nations A/57/705/Add.1

General Assembly

Distr.: General
17 January 2003

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 117
Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Letter dated 15 January 2003 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly

Further to my letter dated 14 January 2003 (A/57/705), I have the honour to inform you that Antigua and Barbuda has made the necessary payment to reduce its arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations.

(*Signed*) Kofi **Annan**
Secretary-General

03-21469 (E) 170103

United Nations A/57/705/Add.2

General Assembly

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24 January 2003

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Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 117
Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Letter dated 24 January 2003 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly

Further to my letters dated 14 and 17 January 2003 (A/57/705 and Add.1), I have the honour to inform you that Cape Verde has made the necessary payment to reduce its arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations.

(*Signed*) Kofi **Annan**
Secretary-General

03-22231 (E) 240103

United Nations A/57/705/Add.3

General Assembly

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28 January 2003

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Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 117
Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Letter dated 28 January 2003 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly

Further to my letters dated 14, 17 and 24 January 2003 (A/57/705 and Add.1 and 2), I have the honour to inform you that Kenya has made the necessary payment to reduce its arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations.

(*Signed*) Kofi **Annan**
Secretary-General

03-22685 (E) 280103

United Nations A/57/705/Add.4

General Assembly

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29 January 2003

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Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 117
Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Letter dated 29 January 2003 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly

Further to my letters dated 14, 17, 24 and 28 January 2003 (A/57/705 and Add.1-3), I have the honour to inform you that Solomon Islands has made the necessary payment to reduce its arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations.

(*Signed*) Kofi **Annan**
Secretary-General

03-22935 (E) 290103

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General Assembly

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29 January 2003

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Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 117
Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Letter dated 29 January 2003 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly

Further to my letters dated 14, 17, 24 and 28 January 2003 (A/57/705 and Add.1-4), I have the honour to inform you that Haiti has made the necessary payment to reduce its arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations.

(*Signed*) Kofi **Annan**
Secretary-General

03-22941 (E) 290103

United Nations A/57/705/Add.6

General Assembly

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30 January 2003

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Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 117
Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Letter dated 30 January 2003 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly

Further to my letters dated 14, 17, 24, 28 and 29 January 2003 (A/57/705 and Add.1-5), I have the honour to inform you that Dominica has made the necessary payment to reduce its arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations.

(*Signed*) Kofi **Annan**
Secretary-General

03-23164 (E) 300103

United Nations A/57/705/Add.7

General Assembly

Distr.: General
10 February 2003

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 117
Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Letter dated 7 February 2003 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly

Further to my letters dated 14, 17, 24, 28, 29 and 30 January 2003 (A/57/705 and Add.1-6), I have the honour to inform you that Belarus has made the necessary payment to reduce its arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations.

(*Signed*) Kofi **Annan**
Secretary-General

03-24215 (E) 120203

United Nations A/57/705/Add.8

General Assembly

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12 February 2003

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 117
Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Letter dated 12 February 2003 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly

Further to my letters dated 14, 17, 24, 28, 29 and 30 January and 10 February 2003 (A/57/705 and Add.1-7), I have the honour to inform you that the Islamic Republic of Mauritania has made the necessary payment to reduce its arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations.

(*Signed*) Kofi **Annan**
Secretary-General

03-24455 (E) 130203

United Nations A/57/706–S/2003/46

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
14 January 2003

Original: English

General Assembly
Fifty-seventh session
Agenda items 36 and 160

The situation in the Middle East

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-eighth year

Letter dated 14 January 2003 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to refer to the recent letter dated 17 December 2002 (A/57/669-S/2002/1383) from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic addressed to the Secretary-General.

In his letter, the Syrian representative endeavours to deny what is well known and extensively documented, namely, that Syria is among the world's most active State sponsors of terrorism. Syrian financing, support and complicity in murderous attacks committed by groups which deliberately target civilians have been a cornerstone of Syrian strategy for decades.

In this connection, I should like to point out the following:

1. The following are among the terrorist groups operating under the auspices of the Government of Syria: Hizbullah, Hamas, Palestine Islamic Jihad (PIJ), the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC), the Palestinian Liberation Front, the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front, The Vanguards of the Liberation War-Sa'iqa, Fatah-the Intifida, and the Communist Revolutionary Party.

2. Syria provides these groups with safe harbour, training areas, financial and logistical support, all in clear violation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), and in a manner which threatens international peace and security. Syrian sponsorship is used to recruit, incite, organize, and fund terrorist activity not only in Israel, but other locales around the world. This support includes sheltering several of the most notorious terrorist criminals, including PIJ secretary-general Ramadan Abdullah Shallah and senior Hamas official Mousa Abu Marzook as well as the political bureau of Hamas, which operates openly out of Damascus under the authority of Khaled Mashaal.

03-20974 (E) 150103

3. The attacks for which these groups are responsible are some of the bloodiest in recent years. They include the Hamas suicide bombing at the Park Hotel in Netanya that killed 30 Israelis on the first night of the Jewish festival of Passover; the PIJ bus bombing of 5 June 2002 at the Megiddo Junction which killed 18 Israelis; the PIJ bus bombing near the Israeli city of Hadera on 21 October 2002 which killed 14 Israelis; the murder of Israeli Cabinet Minister Rehavam Ze'evi in Jerusalem on 17 October 2001 by agents of the PFLP. In the 12 months since Syria has been a member of the United Nations Security Council alone, 98 Israelis have been killed in terrorist attacks perpetrated by organizations whose leadership operates from Damascus. These terrorist atrocities have received the full support of the Syrian administration, which frequently praises them in the official State-controlled media, for example, in a broadcast on Radio Damascus from 9 May 2002, which stated: "The wonderful and special suicide attacks, which were executed by some of the sons of the Palestinian nation, is a practical declaration before the whole world of the way to liberate Arab Palestinian land from Israeli colonialism."

4. The Syrian letter reiterates several times the spurious claim that these terrorist headquarters are merely "information offices" and asserts that it is "obvious" that the staff of these offices could not carry out attacks against Israel "because they are far from the territory in which these actions are taking place". This assertion deliberately ignores the sophisticated communications networks, as well as electronic funds transfers, that are indispensable to today's terrorists. Nor does it take account of the practice of smuggling of weapons and logistical material, which has afforded crucial support and operational instructions to terrorists. Israel has identified several terrorist operatives that were specifically designated liaisons between officials in Damascus and terrorist cells in the West Bank and Gaza including Tarek Az Aldin and Taabat Mardwai, both of whom were responsible for relaying instructions from Damascus to PIJ terrorist operatives sent to carry out suicide bombings and other terrorist attacks.

5. It is a measure of the degree of Syrian complicity in terrorism that its attempted defence is to claim that it merely provides safe haven to the "information offices" of terrorist groups, but not to the groups themselves. This claim is made as if to suggest that hosting offices which only recruit terrorist operatives and glorify, disseminate, encourage and incite suicide bombings against innocent civilians are somehow acceptable. Even were such dubious claims regarding the nature of these offices to be believed, their existence would still constitute a violation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and other basic principles of international law which require, inter alia, that States refrain from providing any support, whether active or passive, to entities or persons involved in terrorist acts; deny safe haven to those who finance, plan, support or commit terrorist attacks; and ensure that those who finance, plan, support or perpetrate terrorist attacks are brought to justice.

6. With respect to Hizbullah, the organization continues its unprovoked cross-border violations of the Blue Line, threatening the stability of the entire region. In addition, Hizbullah continues to pose a serious threat worldwide in the light of its long involvement in international terrorist acts, its network of terrorist cells and contacts around the globe, and its declared intention of spreading suicide terrorism against the West as recently reiterated by Hizbullah secretary general and close Syrian ally Hassan Nasrallah. Syria supports Hizbullah's activities not only by providing the group safe harbour in Syrian-controlled territory, but by facilitating weapons transfers through Damascus, and providing political, financial and

logistical assistance. In a shameless act of duplicity, Syria's continued vocal and active support for Hizbullah and its violations of the Blue Line come at a time when Syria sits on the Security Council and has voted in favour of Security Council resolutions against terrorism as well as resolutions, such as resolution 1428 (2002), which confirm that Israel has fulfilled its obligations under resolution 425 (1978) and call for respect of the Blue Line and for the implementation of Lebanese obligations.

7. Syria claims that Israel's allegations with respect to Hizbullah's illegal violations of the Blue Line, and regarding the organization's support from both Syria and Lebanon, are countered by the Arab summit conference and the conference of French-speaking countries that were held recently in Lebanon. The attempt to present the mere fact that some States attend meetings in Lebanon as evidence of support for Lebanon's position can only be described as bizarre, especially in the face of numerous Security Council resolutions that assert the contrary. At the same time, this perverse logic should serve as a caution to States that participation in such events is likely to be twisted by Syrian representatives to suggest an implied condoning of terrorism. It is a similarly perverse logic that enables Syria to call for respect for the territorial and political independence of Lebanon while maintaining an occupation of that country and using its territory to pursue a subversive terrorist strategy against Israeli citizens across the Lebanese border.

8. Israel reiterates its commitment to achieving a negotiated peace settlement with Syria on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973). But hopes for peaceful coexistence cannot be realized as long as Syria continues to believe, and broadcast to the world, that the deliberate murder of Israeli civilians are acts which should be encouraged, glorified and supported.

In the final analysis, the Syrian letter does little more than expose the intolerable contradiction inherent in having a State which is a foremost sponsor of terrorism sitting as a member of the Security Council. We call on Syria to live up to its international obligations and to reject, once and for all — in word, spirit and deed — the use of terrorism and suicide bombings as a political weapon so as to restore its legitimacy as a member of the international community.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 36 and 160, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Arye **Mekel**
Chargé d'affaires, a.i.